

Editorial Notices.

FREE SCHOOLS IN THE CITY OF TORONTO.—The Public Schools of the Metropolis of Upper Canada, after having been closed for upwards of twelve months by the corporate authorities, have at length been thrown open *Free* to the public. After a year's unrestrained association together in the streets of the City, indulging in vice and profanity, the children are again admitted to the school-room to be placed under its moral and intellectual restraint sufficiently long, if that were possible, to counteract the evil effects of a twelve months' training in the schools of indolence and vice.

The City of Toronto, on the eve of repealing the Law by which she is enabled to exercise supreme Municipal control in adopting effective general measures for establishing a gradation of superior Schools rendered free of access to the thousands of her school population by the imposition of a trifling tax upon the whole property of the City, comes forward to test the experiment of Free Schools. It will be curious and interesting to note the difference in the effect of the operation of the *partial* and *universal* systems of popular Education on the school attendance of the Pupils. Last year, out of a school population of 5500, but 1678 are reported as having attended the Common Schools—and those only during six months of the year! While in the Town of Niagara, under the Free School system, with a school population of 668, 716—including pupils above the age of 16 years, &c.—are reported as having attended the Common Schools during the entire year. The contrast is striking; but it is the result of the operation of the same School Law in the two ex-capitals of Upper Canada during the same year.

We sincerely hope that, after trying the experiment herself, the City of Toronto may, as did Niagara, decide by a popular vote that the public peace and morals will be much better conserved by having her thousands of idle boys industriously and appropriately engaged receiving instruction in her hitherto empty school-houses than in contracting vicious habits in the streets and on the sidewalks of the City.

THE APPORTIONMENT OF THE LEGISLATIVE SCHOOL GRANT FOR THE YEAR 1849, has been notified to the District Superintendents and Chairmen of the Boards of Trustees of Common Schools in the various Cities and Incorporated Towns of Upper Canada, with two exceptions—the Town of Bytown and the District of Dalhousie. The amount apportioned to each District, City, and Town, entitled to receive an apportionment, will be payable, as usual, on the 1st of August next, to the District Superintendents and Treasurers of the Cities and Incorporated Towns, on the Warrant of His Excellency the Governor-General, at the office of the Honourable the Inspector-General, Montreal. Parties in whose favour the Warrants will issue will require, if they have not already done so, to transmit to their Agent in Montreal *two* Powers-of-Attorney—one to be lodged with the Inspector-General and the other to be retained by the Agent appointed. Personal application alone would obviate the necessity of this arrangement.

EDUCATIONAL PERIODICALS, &c., RECEIVED.

THE SOUTHERN JOURNAL OF EDUCATION.

Knoxville, Tenn. U. S. pp. 20, monthly, \$1 per annum. Edited by S. A. JEWETT and S. S. RANDALL, Esquires.

There are two Educational Periodicals published at Knoxville, Tenn. The second we noticed last week. The one now under consideration is edited with much taste and judgment, and is well

filled with educational *materiel*—historical, statistical, and argumentative. S. S. RANDALL, Esq., late Deputy Superintendent of Common Schools in the State of New-York—a gentleman of very superior abilities, and long and popularly known in connexion with School affairs in that State—is the Corresponding Editor. The articles from his pen are written with much vivacity and force. We have much pleasure in transferring some of them to our columns. It is gratifying to witness the emulation of the Southern States to rival the progress and success of the Northern States in promoting popular Education and intelligence.

THE STUDENT, a Family Magazine and Monthly School-Reader.

New-York: pp. 32, \$1 per annum. Edited by Messrs. PLUMAN, CALKINS, and PAINE.

This is a publication with which we are much pleased. It is admirably conducted, and is strictly what it professes to be—a *School Reader*. The selections are beautiful and highly appropriate; and each article is accompanied with a minature pronouncing dictionary of the abstruse terms and words which occur in the lesson. The publication is divided into three parts—for the student, the general reader, and the young pupil. We have no doubt that the third part is a great favourite with the juvenile trio—the face of "*The old Man with a Staff*" beams so benignantly on the smiling group around him as he tells them the pretty little stories so interesting to the mind of guileless, happy childhood.

SINCLAIR'S JOURNAL OF BRITISH NORTH AMERICA.

Quebec: pp. 16, semi-monthly, \$1½ per annum. Edited by P. SINCLAIR, Esquire.

This is indeed a very cheap and very entertaining publication. Its *Sketches of Distinguished Men* form a new feature in Canadian periodical literature, and will prove highly attractive to the general reader. The selections evince correct literary taste.

THE CANADIAN GEM AND FAMILY VISITOR, a Literary and Religious Magazine. Toronto: pp. 28, monthly, \$1 per annum. Edited by the Rev. J. H. LEONARD.

This publication has entered upon its second year, and is very much improved in its appearance. Its articles are all of a high moral tone and generally very interesting and varied. Two views—north and south—of the Provincial Lunatic Asylum are given in the numbers issued this year. They were lithographed by Messrs. SCOBIE & BALFOUR, and serve to indicate, as the Editor remarks, the progress of Canadian art.

WRIGHT'S CASKET AND PAPER are excellent educational papers, published monthly at Philadelphia, at \$4 per annum. They are devoted to universal Education, the Education of Mothers, and the promotion of Home joys, &c. These subjects are ably advocated in these papers. Some of the articles we have transferred to our columns.

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